

In my bill, tax credits are targeted for small business job creation. While we're suffering from high national unemployment, States like Michigan are being hit especially hard. That is why my bill gives bigger tax credits to employers that create jobs in high unemployment States like Michigan. My bill goes to the heart of our economy, helping small businesses, the engine of job creation in America.

#### BLACKLIST BLACKWATER

(Mr. MORAN of Virginia asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. MORAN of Virginia. Mr. Speaker, I rise with great concern that the Department of Defense is considering awarding a \$1 billion contract to Blackwater, now known as Xe Services, to train the Afghan National Police. Blackwater-Xe is synonymous with abuse, unprovoked violence, and a "shoot first" attitude. Their personnel are directly responsible for killing dozens of innocent men, women, and children in Iraq. Clearly, they are not deserving of a U.S. contract to train the Afghan police.

Hiring Xe may irreparably damage our efforts to work cooperatively with the Afghan people and will serve as a propaganda tool for our enemies. They will be seen as representing the American people, which they do not. Given Xe-Blackwater's past performance, our government should not be doing business with Xe, and Secretary Gates should prevent this contract from going forward.

#### ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, the Chair will postpone further proceedings today on motions to suspend the rules on which a recorded vote or the yeas and nays are ordered, or on which the vote incurs objection under clause 6 of rule XX.

Record votes on postponed questions will be taken later.

#### CENSUS AWARENESS MONTH

Mr. LYNCH. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and agree to the resolution (H. Res. 1096) encouraging individuals across the United States to participate in the 2010 Census to ensure an accurate and complete count beginning April 1, 2010, and expressing support for designation of March 2010 as Census Awareness Month, as amended.

The Clerk read the title of the resolution.

The text of the resolution is as follows:

#### H. RES. 1096

Whereas the Constitution requires an actual enumeration of the population every 10 years;

Whereas an accurate census count is vital to the well-being of communities in the

United States by helping planners determine where to locate schools, daycare centers, roads and public transportation, hospitals, housing, and other essential facilities;

Whereas businesses in the United States use census data to support new investments and growth;

Whereas census data ensure fair Federal, State, and local representation in the United States and help determine the composition of voting districts at each level;

Whereas census data directly affect how more than \$400,000,000,000 in Federal and State funding is allocated to communities for neighborhood improvements, public health, education, transportation, etc.;

Whereas census data help identify changes in a community and are crucial for the distribution of adequate services to a growing population;

Whereas the 2000 Census determined the United States had a total population of 281,421,906 and current estimates project the population has grown to 308,573,696;

Whereas the 2010 Census is fast, safe, and easy to complete, with just 10 questions, and requiring only about 10 minutes;

Whereas the 2010 Census data are strictly confidential and Federal law prevents the information from being shared with any entity;

Whereas the individual data obtained from the census are protected under United States privacy laws, cannot be disclosed for 72 years, or used against any person by any government agency or court;

Whereas neighborhoods with large populations of low-income, minority, or rural residents are especially at risk of being undercounted in the 2010 Census;

Whereas, in the 2000 Census count, Hispanics, African-Americans, Asian Americans, and rural Americans were the most difficult to count;

Whereas the goal of the 2010 Census is to count every person in the United States, including Puerto Rico, American Samoa, Guam, the Northern Mariana Islands, the Virgin Islands, and any other territory or possession of the United States once, and only once, and in the right place;

Whereas the goal of the 2010 Census is to eliminate undercounts and overcounts of specific population groups, problems that were apparent in the 2000 Census; and

Whereas the month of March 2010 would be an appropriate month to designate as Census Awareness Month: Now, therefore, be it

*Resolved*, That the House of Representatives—

(1) encourages individuals across the United States to participate in the 2010 Census to ensure an accurate and complete count beginning April 1, 2010;

(2) urges State, local, county, and tribal governments, as well as other organizations to emphasize the importance of the 2010 Census and actively encourages all individuals to participate; and

(3) supports the designation of Census Awareness Month.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Massachusetts (Mr. LYNCH) and the gentleman from North Carolina (Mr. MCHENRY) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Massachusetts.

#### GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. LYNCH. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days within which to revise and extend their remarks and add any extraneous materials.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Massachusetts?

There was no objection.

Mr. LYNCH. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, on behalf of the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform, I am proud to present House Resolution 1096 for consideration. The resolution encourages individuals across the United States to participate in the 2010 Census to ensure an accurate and complete count beginning April 1, 2010, and it expresses support for designation of March 2010 as Census Awareness Month.

House Resolution 1096 was introduced by my friend and colleague, Representative SILVESTRE REYES of Texas, on February 23, 2010, and it enjoys the support of over 50 Members of Congress.

Mr. Speaker, article I, section 2 of the United States Constitution requires an actual enumeration of the population of the United States every 10 years. The Founding Fathers deliberately placed this requirement in the Constitution in order to ensure fair and accurate Federal, State, and local representation, and the Census serves the same purposes today by establishing the composition of voting districts at every level of government. Accurate Census data is vital to the well-being of every person in the United States.

Census data directly affects how more than \$400 billion in Federal and State funding is allocated throughout our Nation. The information obtained in the Census assists planners in determining where schools, daycare centers, health centers, roads, public transportation, hospitals, housing, and other essential infrastructure should be located.

Businesses in the United States use Census data to support new investments, and Census data also helps determine how funds are distributed to communities for neighborhood improvements in public health, education, and transportation initiatives.

Census data also helps identify changes in community makeup and is essential for distribution of adequate services to our continually growing population. In fact, the Census currently estimates that the U.S. population has increased by over 27 million people since the 2000 Census.

The 2010 Census is extremely fast, safe, and easy to complete. It consists of just 10 questions and only requires about 10 minutes to fill out. 2010 Census data is strictly confidential, and Federal law prohibits the personal information from being shared with any entity. Individual data obtained from the Census is protected under United States privacy laws and cannot be disclosed for 72 years or used against any person by any government agency or court.

Given the ease and safety of the 2010 Census, every person in the United States, including individuals in Puerto Rico, American Samoa, Guam, the